



520.30414R51

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): **KATO et al.**
Serial No.: **10/066,747**
Filed: **February 6, 2002**
For: **VACUUM PROCESSING AND OPERATING METHOD**
Group: **3749**
Examiner: **Unassigned**

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 AND §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 17, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find copies of documents to be considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form P PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English translations of the respective documents. In this regard, note that the boxed material with "A" in a circle is translated on the page beginning with "(A)"; and the

boxed material represented by the letter "B" in a circle is translated beginning on the page headed by "B".

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents list on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 520.30414R51) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO-1449
4 references
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